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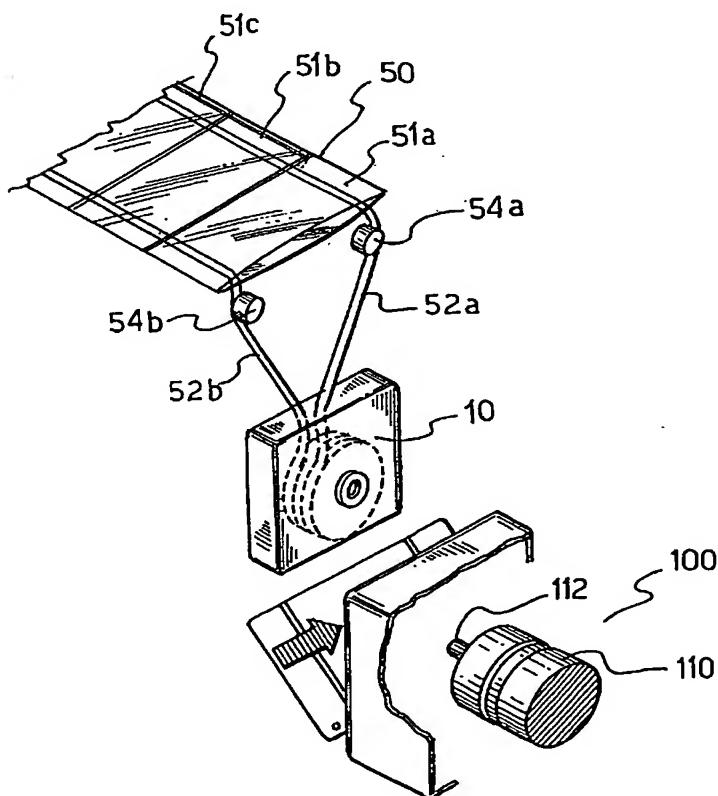
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(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR LOADING A BAG TRAIN



(57) **Abstract:** The preferred embodiment is an apparatus for taking up two carrier tapes (52a, 52b) of a bag train incorporating a succession of imbricated packaging bags (51a, 51b, 51c) that comprises two spools (12a, 12b), one for taking up each carrier tape and a differential gear unit (20) positioned between the spools. In use the apparatus is removably connected to the bag loader, e.g. by snap-on fitting, in a way that the differential gear unit is driven by a shaft (112) of the bag loader and rotates the spools to take up the respective supply tapes with equal tension. The spools are positioned coaxially in the apparatus. Also disclosed is a method of loading a bag chain on a bag loader using such an apparatus.

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